

HERTLING HOSTILE, CZERNIN CAM

COAL FIELDS LAD IN ZONES TO GIVE RELIEF

Each Producing District Assigned to Certain Consuming Locality—Will Save Long Cross Hauls.

Associated Press Service:
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The division of the country's bituminous coal fields into 20 districts as the first step toward instituting a zone system of coal distribution is under way by the fuel administration. Boundaries for seven of the districts already have been established and Fuel Administrator Garfield has named a representative for each.

With the aid of the railroad administration the fuel administration will define consuming districts, each to be supplied from one of the producing districts. A joint committee working on the problem probably will announce a definite zoning plan within a few days.

Distribution by zones has been successfully tried out in England. Fuel administration officials say it will work just as well everywhere, saving thousands of miles of transportation and insuring the speediest possible movement of coal from the mine to the consumer. It will eliminate to a great extent cross hauling, generally conceded to be one of the most uneconomic practices in the coal industry.

Districts Already Established.

The producing districts already established and the fuel administration's representatives therein are: Southeastern Kentucky, Georgia and Tennessee—E. R. Clayton of Harlan, Ky.; Gauley fields of West Virginia on the Baltimore and Ohio—D. R. Lawson of Fairmont, W. Va.; Gauley fields of West Virginia on the Chesapeake and Ohio and part of the Norfolk and Western in West Virginia—A. H. Land of Huntington, W. Va.; Alabama—E. A. Holmes, Birmingham; Indiana—C. G. Hall, Terre Haute; southern Ohio and Mason county, W. Va.—W. D. McKinney; northern Ohio—J. D. Zerby.

The district representatives in every instance will be operators or men familiar with coal production. They will allot all orders received from state fuel administrators and will be made responsible for the prompt movement of coal out of the producing fields. All demands for emergency coal will go directly to them.

Plan Periodical Report.

The plan as now contemplated calls for periodical reports from the producing district representatives to the amount of coal each district is mining. These will be turned over to J. D. Morrow, the coal expert just named by Fuel Administrator Garfield as manager of distribution and apportionment, who will make up budgets for each consuming district on reports from state fuel administrators.

The district representatives will not interfere in any way with the duties of state administrators, but will be expected to assist them. Anthracite coal is not included in the zoning plan because most of it is mined in a narrow strip of territory in Pennsylvania.

The chief difficulty looked for in administration of the zone system is expected to come from the demand for specific grades of coal. Some districts selling a particular grade have found markets far from their mines and this will have to be reckoned with in working out a practical plan of operation.

To Follow State Lines.

The consuming districts will be formed as nearly as possible along state lines. Producers in a district serving a specified consuming district will be permitted to sell in no other and consumers will be required to purchase only in the districts serving their territory. If a consuming district, through its state fuel administrator, demands more coal than allotted to it, consumption will have to be curtailed unless the national administration decides permanent or temporary readjustments are necessary.

To prevent a situation arising next winter similar to the one that has just forced a shutdown of industries, fuel administration officials plan to create in the summer reserves in every consuming center. These would not be touched except in cases of emergency and then they would be replaced when the emergency was over.

AUSTRALIA IN NEW LOAN

Associated Press Service:
VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 25.—Premier Hughes of Australia has announced a new Australian war loan of forty million pounds, according to a cable received today by the Vancouver World from Sydney, N. S. W.

Baker to Make Reply Monday; Will Give Senate Committee Every Fact on War Work Done

Associated Press Service:
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The administration's answer to Sen. Chamberlain's speech in the senate Thursday on war department shortcomings will be made by Sec'y Baker before the senate military committee Monday.

Mr. Baker wrote Chairman Chamberlain Friday asking the committee to arrange an opportunity for him to present a summary of what has been done in America in the war, and that a time and place be fixed so as to enable all members of congress to be present. The committee considered the request in executive session and determined not to have a hearing anywhere except in the regular committee room, but sent the secretary a copy of a resolution inviting him to appear there Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock unless he desired an earlier date.

Although he is anxious to address as many members of congress as possible and is said to have hoped that he might be invited to appear before the senate itself, it is understood Mr. Baker will take the opportunity given. He has cancelled an engagement to meet Saturday the house military committee.

Baker Asks Meeting.

The Baker letter was as follows:

"My dear Sen. Chamberlain: The questions which have arisen with regard to the conduct of the war require an explicit statement from me for the information of your committee, and generally, for the information of congress and the country.

"I feel that in justice I owe such a statement to the splendid officers and men of the army who have forgotten themselves and labored with such sacrifice, and, I think, success, in the building of a great army. It is due also to the great number of men of business and of affairs who have accepted the invitation of the war department to come to Washington and brought their business experience, their talent and their judgment to aid in public affairs. And I think the people of the country are entitled to have at large a summary of what has been done by America in the war.

"I therefore, respectfully request that your committee arrange an opportunity for me to make such a statement, and that the time and place be fixed as to enable all members of the senate and the house of representatives who are so disposed to attend.

"If this request can be complied with I shall be happy to be advised at your earliest convenience of the time and place.

"Cordially yours,
"NEWTON D. BAKER."

The committee adopted the following resolution submitted by Sen. Reed:

"Resolved, that the chairman be requested to reply to the secretary of war's communication by inviting him to appear before the committee next Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock unless he requests an earlier date, the place of meeting to be the room of the committee."

Chamberlain May Cross-Examine.

Chairman Chamberlain said later the committee had extended the war secretary all courtesy within the rules and regulations of the committee in conducting its deliberations. "I assume," he added, "we will have the right of cross-examination. The secretary did not ask to correct his previous statement regarding general conditions. Ordinarily a witness would not be recalled except at the request of the house."

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BARE PACKER SCHEMES TO THWART PROBE

Confidential Files of 1916 Show Meat Magnates Used Every Deceit to Defeat Federal Inquiries.

Associated Press Service:
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Activities behind the scenes in Washington during agitation in 1916 for an investigation into the livestock and packing industry were revealed Friday in correspondence taken from the confidential files of Swift & Co. of Chicago, showing the efforts of the big packing firms to defeat any inquiry into their business.

The correspondence was introduced at the resumption of the federal trade commission's investigation, which was transferred abruptly from the middle west when Walter Trevelyan, an agent of the commission, unearthed from the Swift files documents regarded as of such sensational import, that Francis J. Heney, special counsel and his assistants hurried here from Chicago to put the discoveries into the official record.

During the period covered by the correspondence there were pending in congress resolutions introduced by Rep. Borland of Missouri, and Donnell of Kansas, proposing inquiry into conditions of livestock marketing which cattleman had charged permitted the packers to manipulate the market as they chose. A report on the situation made by counsel to G. F. Swift, Jr., and other officers of the firm, said:

"We believe the situation to be serious and recommend that everything be done in every direction to head off the present movement. We believe that as it stands today, nothing could stop criminal prosecutions."

How Probe Was Fought.

In addition to working in Washington, the packers went to the source of the agitation for an inquiry. Their records showed they were kept informed of the plans of the American National Livestock association by T. W. Tomlinson, secretary, and made their preparations to nullify the association's work. In addition "educational" work was undertaken at the association's conventions and counsel recommended that the packers assist conservative elements in the various associations to gain control and hush the opposition.

Immediately after the Borland resolution was introduced in congress, according to the records, Armour, Swift and Morris arranged to oppose it. Later Cudahy was asked to join them because it was suggested counsel for that firm had "powerful acquaintances" in Washington.

R. C. McManus, counsel for Swift, proceeded to Washington to keep in touch with developments. If the resolution could not be made to die in committee, the packers proposed to "draw a herring across the investigation trail," as Commissioner Murdock phrased it, by having the bureau of markets commence publication of livestock and beef price data, which they hoped would make an investigation unnecessary. Failing in that it was proposed to have any investigation touch merely the economic phases of the industry and be conducted by the bureau of markets, rather than the federal trade commission. Though the commission was preferred to a congressional committee, as likely to be less influenced by political considerations.

Heney Promises Something Good.

In connection with references to an effort to obtain governmental price figures furnished by themselves, through an amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill, Mr. Heney announced that this matter would be the subject of "very interesting documents" to be introduced Saturday.

According to the evidence, as time for hearings on the Borland resolution drew near, the Donnell resolution having been dropped, many emissaries were sent to Washington. Sen. Wadsworth of New York, who Heney said, was a stockholder in Swift & Co., was appealed to for aid. W. H. Gates, at that time chairman of the democratic state committee of Colorado, according to the documents, reported on the attitude of various senators and congressmen, especially his friend, Sen. Thompson of Kansas, whom he characterized as a good man to stay close to and recommended that Swift & Co. give him some of their Kansas City business.

Chalm Wilson Was Opposed.

Gates also reported that advisers of the president declared he opposed the Borland resolution as disturbing to business. Attention was called Friday in this connection to the fact that the present investigation

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Greater Saving of Food Asked by Wilson Today

News-Times Special Service:
INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—Food restrictions far more drastic than have yet been promulgated by federal authorities to become public within the next 48 hours, it became known here Friday. Two wheatless days a week, probably Monday and Wednesday, one wheatless meal each day, one meatless meal each day, one meatless meal each day, two porkless days, probably Tuesday and Saturday, fat saving and sugar saving are to become routine in all homes. It is understood the new rules of the food administration are to become public through action by the president. The elimination of wheat in war bread to a greater degree than had been dreamed possible also is to be ordered, it is understood.

Associated Press Service:
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Greater saving of food will be asked of the American people by Pres't Wilson Saturday in a proclamation announced the food administration's 1918 conservation program.

The critical situation in the allied countries and the amount of food the United States is expected to share with them was set forth in a preliminary statement Friday night by Food Administrator Hoover, who received a cablegram from Lord Rhondia, the British controller which said:

"Unless you are able to send the allies at least 75,000,000 bushels of wheat over and above what you have exported up to Jan. 1 and in addition to the exportable surplus from Canada I cannot take the responsibility of assuring our people that there will be enough food to win the war."

Although the food administration's plans contemplate creating the export surplus largely by voluntary effort, some measures of forced conservation will be employed, notably in the consumption of wheat flour, which will be reduced by arbitrary means at least 20 percent. This reduction will be accomplished by limiting the sales of distributors all the way from the miller to the retailer.

Export Only What Is Saved.

In giving the volume of exports he hopes to supply to Europe, Mr. Hoover declared that no food would be sent out of the country that is saved and that in no event would the American food supply be endangered.

"Imperative necessity," Lord Rhondia's message said, "compels me to cable you in this blunt way."

Mr. Hoover replied to this message:

"We will export every grain that the American people save from their normal consumption. We believe our people will not fail to meet the emergency."

Belgium Needs Help Too.

In addition to 75,000,000 bushels of wheat for the allies, Mr. Hoover says that Belgium must be given 15,000,000 bushels and that Cuba and neutrals must be spared at least ten million bushels.

"We estimate," says his statement tonight, "that the American people have saved as much as 30,000,000 bushels out of their last harvest and if we are to meet the increased demands we must rigidly limit our consumption to 30 percent below normal until the next harvest."

Europe's beef demands for the next three months, Mr. Hoover said, will amount to seventy million pounds a month, against a pre-war importation from America of only ten million pounds a month.

Of pork products the allies want for the next three months 150,000,000 pounds a month, against a pre-war shipment of 50,000,000 pounds and an average of 100,000,000 pounds in the last two years.

TEUTONS SCORN MAJOR PEACE TERMS LAID DOWN BY PRES'T WILSON AND LLOYD GEORGE; ALSACE-LORRAINE HELD OUT OF QUESTION

Summary of Austrian and German Replies to Wilson

Associated Press Service:
Count von Hertling, the German imperial chancellor, in answering the recent speeches of Pres't Wilson and Premier Lloyd George, announced in the reichstag main committee that Germany would not give up Alsace-Lorraine under any circumstances.

As to Belgium the chancellor said Germany did not desire any forcible annexation of her territory. Regarding occupied French territory, he declared that while Germany did not desire annexations of it by violence, he would discuss the question of this territory only with France. The evacuation of Russian territory could be discussed only with Russia, he announced. He expressed agreement with certain points in Pres't Wilson's speech and invited new proposals from the allies.

Czernin Would Parley With U. S.

Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, in an address before the reichstag, voiced a desire to continue the exchange of peace views with the allies. In particular he thought such exchanges between Austria-Hungary and the United States were desirable.

The German chancellor stated specifically that Germany agreed with the first four points in Pres't Wilson's world's peace program, which cover the abolition of secret diplomacy, freedom of the seas, equality of trade conditions and reduction of national armaments. The chancellor thought some difficulties would be met regarding the fifth point, which treated with colonial adjustments and asserted the principle that the interests of the

population concerned must have equal weight with the claims of the government whose title was to be determined.

Points 9 and 10 for Austria.

Austria was primarily concerned with points 9, 10 and 11 in Pres't Wilson's speech, Chancellor von Hertling pointed out, but Germany's interests would be defended energetically where they were involved. These points touch upon the readjustment of the Italian frontiers along clearly recognizable lines of nationality, free opportunity for the autonomous development of the peoples of Austria-Hungary and the Balkan question, including demands for the evacuation of Roumania, Serbia and Montenegro with free access to the sea for Serbia.

The chancellor was notably specific in his treatment of the Alsace-Lorraine question, declaring this territory was originally German, that it had been taken by force from German possession and that the cession of 1871 was merely a restoration.

League of Peace Last.

As to the question of a League of Peace, the chancellor said Germany would be ready to discuss that after all the other questions had been settled.

Count Czernin, Austria's spokesman, in his address dealt at some length with the Russian question. He declared that Austria-Hungary did not desire a metre of territory, nor a centime of indemnity from Russia and thought there were not differences enough in the Russian and the German viewpoint of self-determination to justify an abandonment of the negotiations now in progress.

Austrian Premier Sees Hope of Parley With U. S.—Washington Holds Both Answers as Negative in Character.

Associated Press Service:
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—No advance toward peace is seen here in the speeches made Thursday in Berlin and Vienna by the German chancellor and Austrian foreign minister upon the war aims of the central powers.

Formal comment will be withheld until the texts are put out by an authorized German agency, but after reading press accounts of the speeches officials expressed the opinion that they were framed largely for internal consumption with the incidental purpose to plant seeds of discord among the allies by suggestions of separate negotiations and to appeal to the sympathies of the radical socialist elements in the enemy's countries.

One Hostile, Other Compromising.

Regarding the design to affect the internal conditions of Germany and Austria, one official suggested that the striking differences of tone in the two countries, the German being almost defiantly aggressive, and the Austrian compromising and insinuating, were calculated precisely to meet the varying conditions in the two empires. In Germany, strengthened by the Russian collapse resulting in the transfer of vast forces from the eastern to the western front, the militaristic party is in the ascendancy, and the chancellor abandoning the conciliatory attitude he occupied when he assumed office apparently voices the will of the military leaders.

In Austria the working people are reported in incipient rebellion and the demands for peace at almost any price are insistent, and clamorous. This is the explanation found here for the foreign minister's vague promises of peace without annexations or indemnities, and his special bid for negotiations direct with America.

Both Inter-Dependent.

It is noted, however, that the speeches are inter-dependent, that Austria will not negotiate without Germany's consent and approval and that Germany gives her sanction to what has been done in Austria. Both spokesmen express confidence in the success of the peace negotiations with Russia, in contrast to the bitter denunciation of the conditions of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, the bolshevik minister for foreign affairs. This attitude officials and diplomats believe to be the result of apprehension that the conclusion at this moment of the failure of the Brest-Litovsk negotiations would exasperate the German and Austrian public beyond the safety point.

In some quarters there was a disposition to find a grain of hope in the concession by both speakers that there were points in the utterances of Lloyd George and Pres't Wilson that might be acceptable to the German peoples and afford the basis of further discussion. But other officials insisted that this was only another demonstration of the truth of Pres't Wilson's statement in his address to congress, that it was the practice of German diplomacy to mislead by declaring adherence to large principles and then neutralize them by insistence upon details of quite another character. The present belief of the officials is that there is not the slightest probability of a compliance by the United States and the allies with the final demand of the German chancellor for the submission of terms of new proposals for peace.

RUSS ARMIES DEMORALIZED

Chief of Staff Reports Many Parts of Front Entirely Open.

Associated Press Service:
PETROGRAD, Thursday, Jan. 24.—Maj. Gen. Bonch-Bruyevich, chief of staff at the Russian front, paints a gloomy picture of the condition of the Russian armies in a report to Ensign Krylenko, the commander-in-chief. The army organizations are utterly demoralized, he says, the officers are inexperienced and the maintenance of discipline is impossible. The only possible salvation for the army, the only chance for effective resistance, he declares, is for the various sections of the armies to fall back to their natural defenses and undergo a thorough reorganization of the units under trained leaders.

Many parts of the front are entirely open, Gen. Bonch-Bruyevich reports, at numerous places there being only 240 infantrymen in the miles. He reserves are refusing to relieve the men in the trenches and the soldiers are deserting in masses. Communications are broken and few horses are available. The wire entanglements have been destroyed to facilitate fraternizing and the exchange of commodities with the German armies.

At many points, adds the chief of staff, fortified points have been destroyed, making resistance utterly impossible on the lines as at present located even with good troops. Various branches of the staffs must soon be reformed, he declares, because of the disordered conditions, and the economic life of the army will thus be ruined.

GETS LIFE SENTENCE

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—Joseph Benson of this city was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Indiana state prison Friday for the murder of Walter Owens on the night of March 25, 1917.

Owens, while attempting to prevent Benson from shooting another man in a local saloon, was wounded and died a day later in a hospital.

SAYS HERTLING VERY WARLIKE

British Minister of Blockade Notes Absence of Policy Toward Belgium.

Associated Press Service:
LONDON, Jan. 25.—Chancellor von Hertling's speech was characterized Friday by Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, in a statement to the Associated Press as a very warlike, certainly not a peace speech. He added that the speech has not been dictated by Hindenburg and Ludendorff and contained no declaration of policy regarding Belgium, which he had always looked to as a test of the reality of any proposals from the other side.

Lord Robert says he had just read the speech of Foreign Minister Czernin and could not comment on it.

ALL STORES MUST KEEP HEATLESS ON MONDAYS

News-Times Special Service:
INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—H. E. Barnhart, federal food administrator, has ordered from Herbert Hoover, federal food administrator, which stated that "it is agreed by the food and fuel administrators that all wholesale and retail stores dealing in foods should close at noon Monday from Jan. 28 to March 25, except where such closing will interfere with sufficient distribution of food for the immediate needs of the communities."

25,000 MORE BORN THAN DIED IN INDIANA IN 1917

Associated Press Service:
INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—There were 25,000 more births than deaths in Indiana in 1917, according to the annual report of the state board of health given out here Friday. There were 82,538 babies born, while death removed 57,538 persons. However, both the birth and death rate declined a little from that of 1916.

News-Times Observes Coal Conservation Order

IN KEEPING with the announcement of a week ago, and complying with the conservation order issued by Fuel Administrator Garfield, The News-Times reiterates its previous announcement that it will forego its Saturday afternoon edition for the next nine weeks. This is substituting Saturday for Monday as The News-Times holiday, agreement to that effect having been reached with Local Fuel Administrator Hardy. The morning edition of The News-Times on Saturdays will be delivered to the afternoon readers as well, same as Sunday. Under a strict construction of the order allowing morning and evening papers each one issue on the prescribed Monday holidays, The News-Times might issue both "Saturday and Monday afternoon as usual," but concedes Saturday afternoon, which would result in the same fuel saving as Monday. Accordingly there will be only a morning edition Saturdays. Advertisers will note this, same as readers, and arrange their schedules of advertising accordingly. Sorry, but the country is at war, there is a reputed fuel famine, and this is the bit asked of us by the federal government in solving the problem.